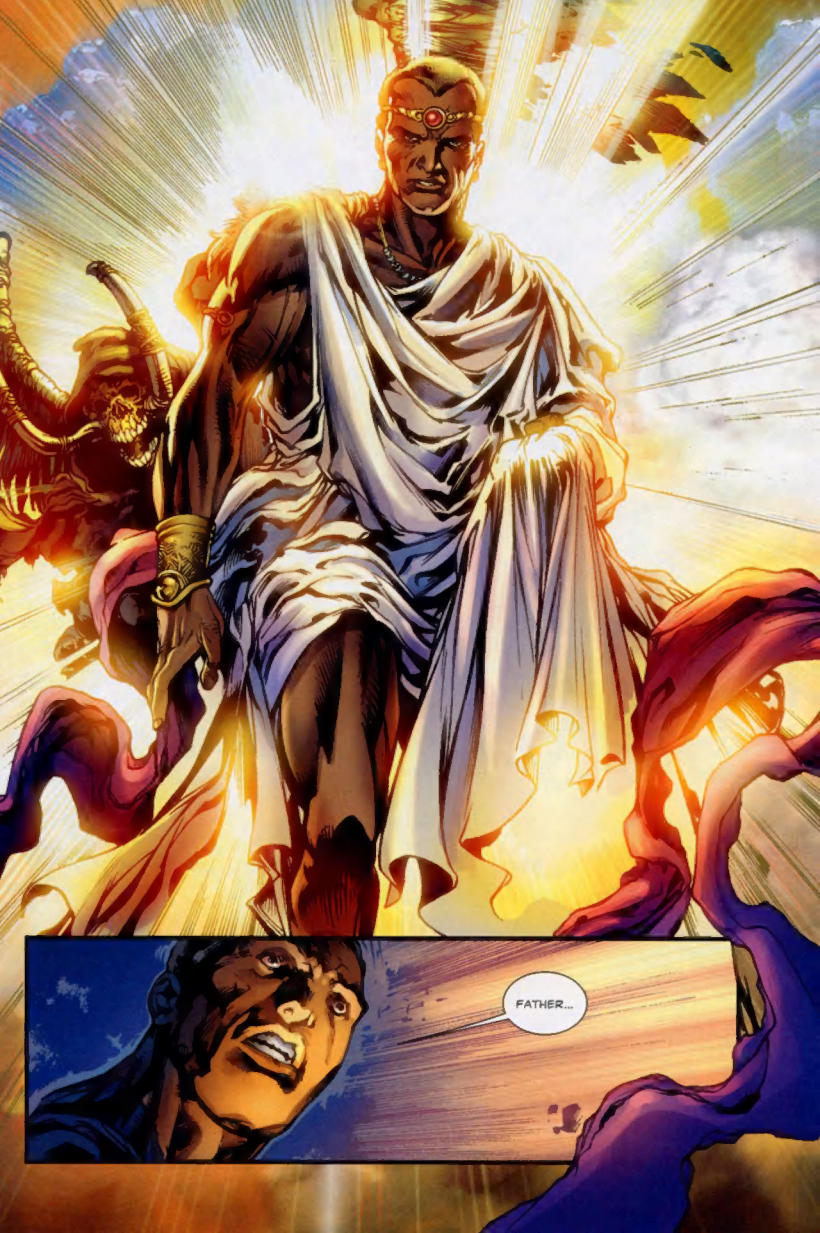
KINGDOM OF THE MAN APE...
"AS YOU KNOW, WE'VE ALWAYS HAD THE GREATEST RESPECT FOR WAKANDA..."
THE BLACK PANTHER IS DEAD.
DEAD? IS THIS A RUMOR OR HAVE THE WAKANDANS ISSUED A FORMAL STATEMENT?
NO STATEMENT YET, MY LORD. BUT OUR SPY NETWORK IS ABLAZE.
"...BUT NO ONE MORE THAN OUR KING."
FINALLY!
"AS THE MAN APE'S CLOSEST ADVISOR, I WAS A WITNESS TO HIS PROFOUND GRIEF AT THE NEWS..."
JUSTICE HAS FINALLY TURNED IN THE DIRECTION OF DESTINY!
"...AND THE EVENTS THAT WOULD CUT SHORT HIS MOURNING."
SIRE! WE'RE UNDER ATTACK!
AND SO IT BEGINS. WHEN ONE LEADER FALLS, THE RABBLE LOOKS FOR THE NEXT KING THEY CAN TOPPLE? DOES NO ONE LEARN FROM HISTORY?
WHAT FOOLS MUST DIE? WAKANDANS? NIGANDANS? AMERICANS? WHO?

MY KING... IT'S NOT A MOB OR AN INVADING ARMY...
DEATH IS COMING!
"UNTIL THAT DAY I HAD THOUGHT HIM A MYTH. A FAIRY TALE.
"HE CUT THROUGH OUR DEFENSES LIKE A LION THROUGH A SPIDER'S WEB.
"MORLUN, DEVOURER OF TOTEMS.
"WE STOOD OUR GROUND TO PROTECT OUR KING, OUR COUNTRY...
"TO NO AVAIL.

"OUR MIGHTY KING FOUGHT. OH, HOW HE FOUGHT. THE WORLD SHOOK AS OUR KING BROUGHT HIS RAGE TO BEAR ON THE MONSTER..."
THIS IS MY LAND! NO ONE DARES SHED THE BLOOD OF MY PEOPLE! I'LL TEAR THE HEART FROM YOUR--
"...AND THEN..."
AAARRRGH!
...THE MONSTER CONSUMED HIM.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "CONSUMED?"
HE SUCKED THE VERY LIFE OUT OF HIM. FEASTED ON HIS MIND AND BODY...
...UNTIL ALL THAT REMAINED WERE ASHES.

SO HOW DID YOU SURVIVE?
WITH HIS DYING BREATH, MY KING BID ME LEAVE...
...TO SPREAD THE WORD THAT HE HAD DIED BRAVELY IN BATTLE...
...AND TO FIND SOME WAY TO AVENGE HIS DEATH.
WHY COME HERE? YOUR MASTER WAS NOT FOND OF THE BLACK PANTHER.
THEY WERE BOTH PROUD KINGS. BOTH WARRIORS. THEY WERE MORE ALIKE THAN THEY WERE DIFFERENT, YOU KNOW IT AS WELL AS I DO.
MY LORD WOULD NEVER WANT A BROTHER KING TO FALL TO EVIL WITHOUT WARNING...AND WITHOUT A FIGHT.
BESIDES, I KNEW THAT WITH PROPER WARNING, YOU WOULD ERECT ADEQUATE DEFENSES TO STOP MORLUN, AND THAT THE GENEROUS NATION OF WAKANDA WOULD PROTECT AND REWARD SOMEONE WHO PROVIDED THE INFORMATION THAT MIGHT SAVE ITS PEOPLE.
W'KABI, PUT OUR FORCES ON DEFENSE ALERT ALPHA. AND HAVE YOUR NETWORK VERIFY THIS MAN'S STORY.
AT ONCE.
IF THIS IS TRUE, THEN WE COULD BE FACING A TIDAL WAVE OF REFUGEES AT THE VERY TIME WE SHOULD BE CLOSING OUR BORDERS.
DO YOU THINK IT'S ALL RELATED?
BETTER TO ASSUME THE WORST, AND PREPARE FOR IT.

WHY DO YOU HESITATE, T'CHALLA? DEATH IS INESCAPABLE.
THIS IS NOT MY TIME.
IT'S ONLY HUMAN TO RESIST MY EMBRACE. THOUGH YOUR DESIRE FOR REVENGE IS STRONG, YOU WILL FIND NO PEACE IN THE WAKING WORLD, NO JUSTICE. NOTHING YOU COULD HAVE DONE MATTERS IN THE END.
BUT NOW YOUR LIFE IS OVER. IT'S TIME TO ENJOY YOUR JUST REWARD.
NO.
MY WIFE AND MY NATION NEED ME. I WILL NOT GO.
PERHAPS THERE'S ANOTHER THAT CAN CHANGE YOUR MIND.


FATHER...

ALL SECTORS HAVE REPORTED IN. WE'RE AT FULL READINESS.
THE QUEEN WAS LAST SEEN LEAVING WITH THE QUEEN MOTHER FOR THE NORTH PROVINCES. THE TRACKING DEVICE ON THE VEHICLE WAS DISABLED, BUT WE HAVE THEM ON SATELLITE. THEIR HEADING SUGGESTS--
NO! NOT EVEN THE QUEEN MOTHER WOULD THINK TO LOOK FOR ANSWERS THERE!
I HAVE A CAR WAITING. THE DRIVER IS UPLINKED TO THE SATELLITE TRACKING SYSTEM.
...THE WORLD'S GOING MAD...WHOLE CONTINENT'S IN FLAMES AND THEY PIN OUR HOPES ON A LUNATIC...
I'M WITH A PATIENT NOW, S'YAN. IF YOU'D LIKE TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT--
DON'T PLAY WITH ME, ZAWAVARI. OPEN THIS DOOR OR I WILL PERSONALLY BURN THIS PLACE TO THE GROUND.

S'YAN! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
ISN'T THAT WHAT I SHOULD BE ASKING YOU?
T'CHALLA WILL NAIL ALL OUR HIDES TO THE WALL WHEN HE LEARNS THAT YOU CONSULTED WITH THIS CRACKPOT!
I WILL DO WHATEVER IT TAKES.
VERY WELL. BUT I WOULD SPEAK WITH THE QUEEN. WHERE IS SHE?
SHE'S INDISPOSED.
WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS, RAMONDA.
THE PEOPLE THINK THEIR KING IS DEAD!
THE QUEEN NEEDS TO ADDRESS THE NATION AND ALLAY THE FEARS OF THE PEOPLE LEST WE HAVE PANIC ON OUR HANDS. THAT'S A BIT MORE IMPORTANT THAN WASTING TIME ON MYSTIC MUMBO JUMBO THAT--
ENOUGH.
YOU ARE MY BROTHER-IN-LAW, BUT I AM THE QUEEN MOTHER. YOU WILL DO AS I SAY.
YOU ARE CORRECT.
MY APOLOGIES.

UNTIL MY SON AND ORORO RETURN, I AM GOVERNING IN THEIR STEAD.
RELYING ON THIS CRACKPOT'S VOODOO IS MADNESS RAMONDA.
YOU MAY BE RIGHT, S'YAN.
BUT IT'S THE ONLY HOPE WE'VE GOT.
YOU'D BETTER BE RIGHT. BECAUSE IF YOU'RE WRONG, YOUR NEWFOUND AUTHORITY WILL BE SHORT-LIVED.
THAT WENT WELL.
I HAVE RISKED IT ALL ON THIS, ZAWAVARI. THIS HAD BETTER WORK.
ALL I CAN DO IS OPEN THE DOOR. THE REST IS UP TO THEM.

WE BOTH KNOW YOU'VE TRAINED HARD, CHILD. YOU'RE AS READY AS ANYONE COULD BE.
BUT THE FACT IS THAT THERE'S NO WAY TO TRULY PREPARE FOR THE UNEXPECTED. THIS IS THE WAY OF THINGS.
WARRIORS AND KINGS KNOW THIS. YOU KNOW THIS.
YES.
SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING. AFFAIRS OF STATE.
I SEE EVERYTHING'S READY. ZURI... YOU MAY BEGIN.
SHURI, LISTEN TO ME. ONCE YOU INGEST THE HERB, YOU WILL COMMUNE DIRECTLY WITH THE PANTHER GOD.
YOU ARE READY, BUT TAKE NOTHING FOR GRANTED. NOTHING IS CERTAIN, EVEN NOW.
WHERE IS MY MOTHER?
SHE CAN'T BE HERE.
CAN'T BE HERE...?
OR DOESN'T WANT TO BE HERE?
GROW UP! OR YOUR PETULANCE WILL BE THE DEATH OF US ALL.

DON'T WORRY, W'KABI. I'M READY. LET'S GET THIS SHOW ON THE ROAD.
THAT WAS QUICK.
SO WHAT NOW?
NOW...
...WE WAIT.

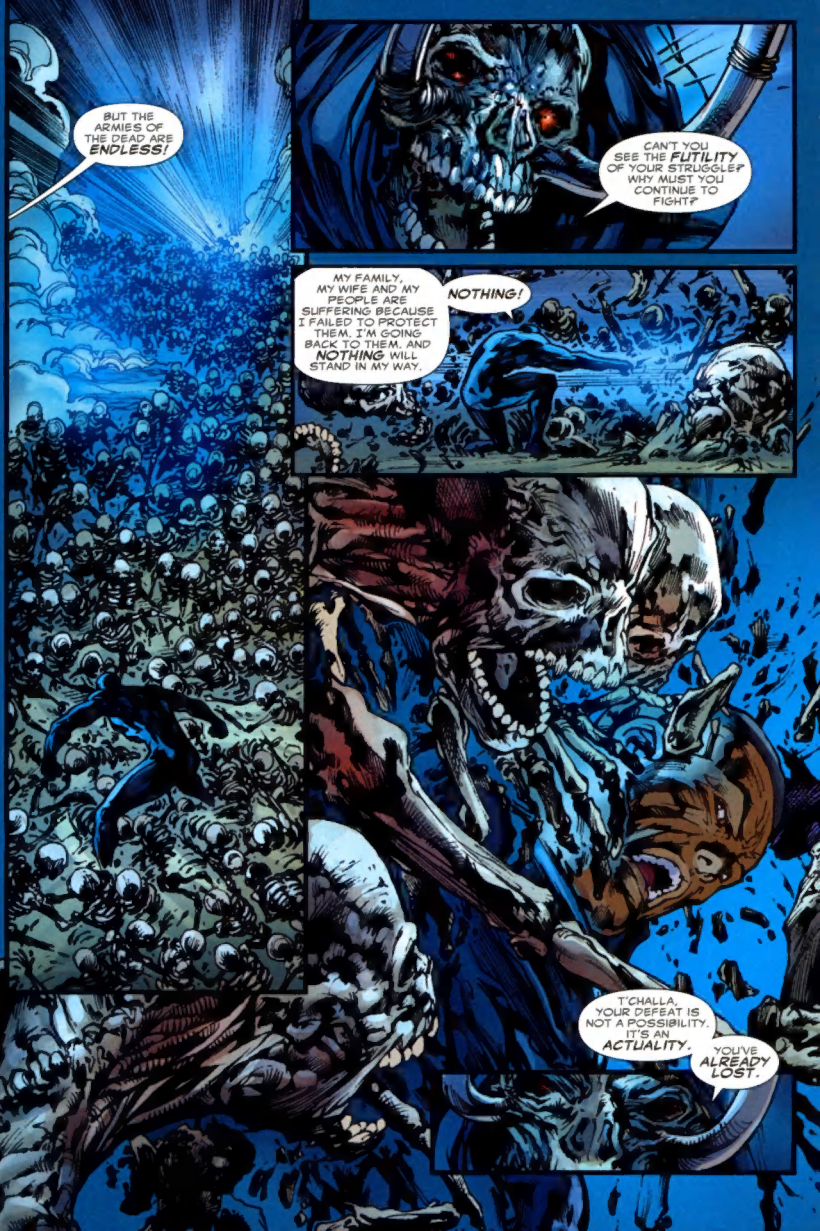
YOU'RE NOT REAL.
I AM, SON.
I HAVE BEEN WATCHING OVER YOU ALL YOUR LIFE.
AND I'M SO PROUD OF THE MAN YOU HAVE BECOME.
THE MAN I KNEW YOU WOULD BECOME.

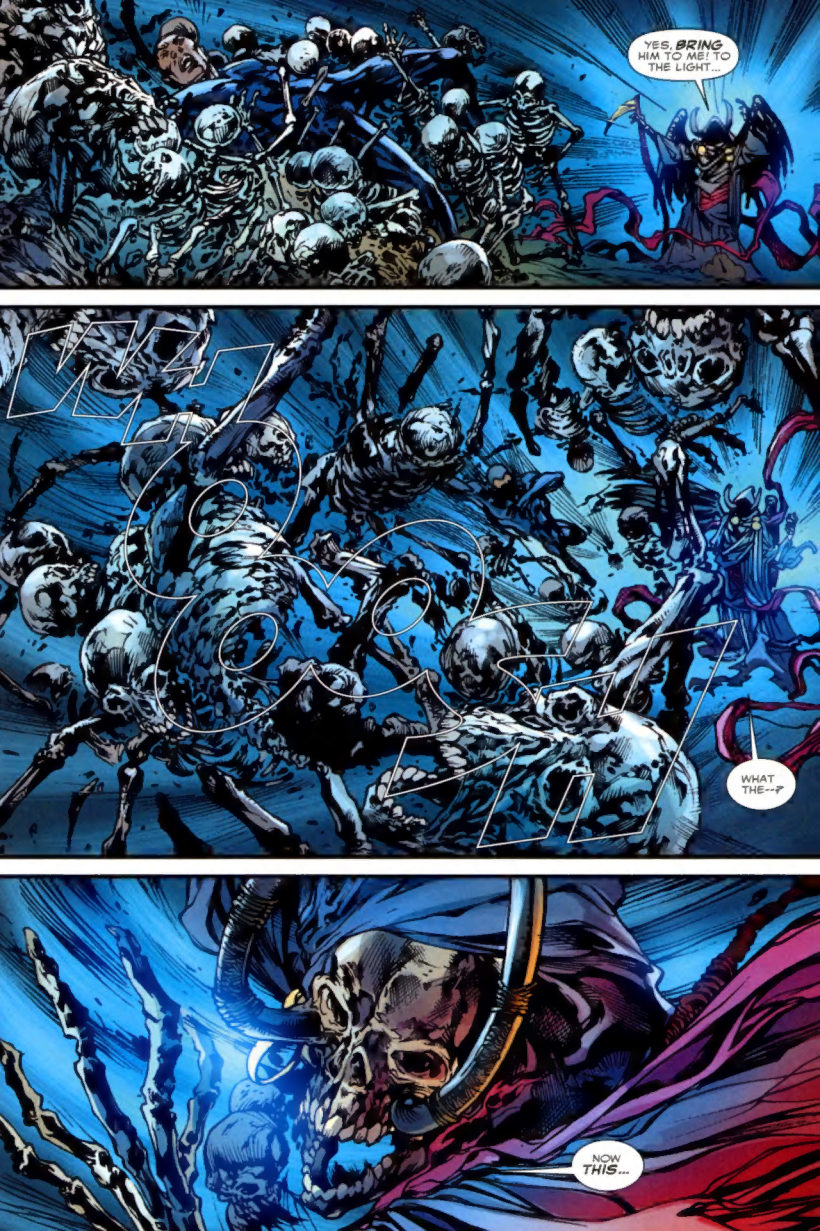
AND THAT'S WHAT I'M DOING.
I AM READY.
READY TO STEP OUT FROM MY BROTHER'S SHADOW.
READY TO WALK MY PATH.
READY TO EMBRACE MY DESTINY.
TO BE WHAT I WAS BORN TO BE!
I'M READY.
GIVE ME WHAT I NEED TO SAVE MY PEOPLE.
SNF
SNF

I FAILED THEM, FATHER. IN THE END... I WASN'T STRONG ENOUGH.
NO ONE WINS EVERY BATTLE. NO ONE CAN.
YOU ARE NOT TO BLAME FOR BEING HUMAN, T'CHALLA.
IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO GIVE UP THE FIGHT.
"GIVE UP..."?
YOU ARE NOT MY FATHER.
SIGH
IF A PEACEFUL PATH IS NOT ENOUGH TO PERSUADE YOU...

WHAT WOULD THOSE CHAMPIONS SAY TO SUCH A DEMAND?
HOW WOULD THEY RESPOND TO SUCH ARROGANCE?
THE MANTLE OF THE PANTHER IS NOT ABOUT ENTITLEMENT. IT IS ABOUT SACRIFICE-- ABOUT PUTTING THE GREATER GOOD AHEAD OF THE PURSUIT OF GLORY.
BUT YOU-- YOU SEE IT AS A TROPHY TO BE WON OR LOST.
JEALOUSY HAS FESTERED IN YOUR HEART SINCE YOUR BROTHER TOOK UP THE MANTLE OF PANTHER.
OF ALL THE ENEMIES YOU'VE FACED, HUBRIS IS THE ONE YOU HAVE NEVER DEFEATED.
YOU ARE NOT WORTHY TO BE THE BLACK PANTHER. IT IS NOT YOUR BURDEN. IT IS NOT YOUR DESTINY.
NOW LEAVE THIS PLACE.
AND CONSIDER WHAT YOU WILL DO KNOWING THAT YOU WILL NEVER FOLLOW IN YOUR BROTHER'S FOOTSTEPS.
AND IT NEVER WILL BE.

PERHAPS PAIN WILL SHOW YOU THE FUTILITY OF DENYING THE INEVITABLE.
KRUNCH
WHACK
KRUNCH
I AM IMPRESSED! I NEVER EXPECTED YOU TO LAST THIS LONG. TRULY, YOUR WILL TO LIVE IS STRONG.


BUT THE ARMIES OF THE DEAD ARE ENDLESS!
CAN'T YOU SEE THE FUTILITY OF YOUR STRUGGLE? WHY MUST YOU CONTINUE TO FIGHT?
MY FAMILY, MY WIFE AND MY PEOPLE ARE SUFFERING BECAUSE I FAILED TO PROTECT THEM. I'M GOING BACK TO THEM. AND NOTHING WILL STAND IN MY WAY.
NOTHING!
T'CHALLA, YOUR DEFEAT IS NOT A POSSIBILITY. IT'S AN ACTUALITY.
YOU'VE ALREADY LOST.


YES, BRING HIM TO ME! TO THE LIGHT...
WHAT THE--?
NOW THIS...

...IS SOMETHING YOU DON'T SEE EVERY DAY.
TO BE CONTINUED!